

PURSUIT OF VILLA WELL UNDER WAY; CARRANZA STILL PUZZLES OFFICIALS

WILSON FACES TROUBLE OVER CROSSING LINE

Many Difficulties in Way of Agreement Concerning the Movement of Troops.

NO TREATY TO ENTER U. S.

President Cannot Give Permission to Carranza—Latter Reserved Loopholes in Reply

By JUDSON C. WELLIVER.
The impression seems to be commonly entertained that it will be an easy and simple for the Government of the United States and Mexico to agree on an arrangement by which United States troops may cross the international border in pursuit of Mexican bandits, and Mexican troops may do the same if necessity shall arise. As a matter of fact there are some very real difficulties in the way.

Authority for an armed force to enter upon American territory in order to pursue outlaws, criminals, etc., cannot be granted by the Executive of this country. It must be accomplished by treaty process, and there is no treaty to this effect at present between this country and Mexico.

LEAVES A LOOPHOLE.

General Carranza, in his note to the Washington Government, instead of granting the request for permission to send American forces across the border, uses this language:

"The government presided over by the First Chief . . . addresses the United States requesting the necessary permission for Mexican forces to cross into American territory in pursuit of those bandits, acknowledging due reciprocity in regard to forces of the United States crossing into Mexican territory if the raid effected at Columbus should unfortunately be repeated at other points of the border."

The foregoing is a very long way from permission for American troops to cross the border. It is instead an agreement to allow American troops to cross provided similar permission is given by the United States for Mexican troops to cross, and even this is based on the condition that "the raid effected at Columbus should unfortunately be repeated at other points of the border."

It is not hastily to be assumed, in (Continued on Eighth Page.)

Pleads for Aid to Baby Week Board

Dr. Arthur L. Murray Sends Out Letter Asking for Co-operation.

Plans for Baby Week in the District are being formulated under the committee of which Dr. William C. Woodward, health officer of the District, is chairman.

As executive officer in charge, Dr. Arthur L. Murray today sent out a plea for co-operation and for suggestions. He said:

"The success of this undertaking which has the endorsement of the President of the United States, the Commissioners of the District of Columbia, and the various civic and welfare organizations of the community is to a considerable extent dependent upon the whole-hearted and public-spirited co-operation of every citizen of this District."

"The saving of infants and the making possible that babies have a better chance for happy and healthy lives is a decided civic economy and is just as much a concern of every citizen of this District as it is of the municipal government and the various organizations working in the interest of infant welfare."

London Bets 5 to 1 War Will Last Until Dec. 1

LONDON, March 12.—There has been a brisk sport of war wagers at Lloyd's. Bets have been made of 5 to 1 that peace will not be declared before December 1, up to 5 that the war will not be ended before January 1.



United States mountain battery, which is to form part of the punitive expedition sent into Mexico to get Villa. Mules and men are seasoned campaigners.



COL. JIM PARKER, of the Eleventh Cavalry, San Antonio, Tex.

Occoquan a Paradise Compared With Refuge Of City's Ill and Needy

Washington cares for its lawbreakers better than it looks after its indigent sick.

A convict is sent to Occoquan. He is housed in a bright, healthful dormitory. There is no overcrowding. The ventilation is excellent. His meals are well prepared and served. He is surrounded by every modern personal convenience.

One of the city's poor—friendless and sick and miserable—is sent to the Washington Asylum Hospital. He is herded into a ramshackle firetrap of a wooden-walled ward. It is gloomy and crowded; the atmosphere is bad. There is no ventilation.

His brief hours of sleep between pain are broken by the groans of his next unfortunate neighbor, whose bed is less than eighteen inches distant. His meals come to him from an outdoor kitchen, cold and unpalatable, smeared with a film of chilled grease.

Perhaps his ailment is not as bad as that of some other unfortunate whose ills are clamoring for a hospital bed. If so, because room must be made for the worst cases, he is moved to a basement room or to a bleak, windswept, unsheltered porch.

The physicians and nurses who attend him are overworked and sadly hampered. Common conveniences are unbelievably few.

If the patient happens to be one of those unfortunates of good family who often are sent there suspected of being insane, the Washington Asylum for him is a purgatory to be endured between incarceration in St. Elizabeth's or release. He goes into a grim, barred building which was once the District almshouse. He may be suffering only from a nervous attack or alcoholism; yet he is penned in with maundering, hopeless maniacs, in rooms where there is no attempt to segregate the races.

Washington can no longer afford to overlook conditions at the Washington Asylum Hospital. Wayfarers upon the hundred pathways

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U. S. TROOPS CROSSING BORDER AT 3 POINTS

Forces From Douglas March South Six Miles From Agua Prieta, Skirting Western Slope of Sierra Madres; Censor Keeps Lid Down.

United States troops are on Mexican soil today and the pursuit of Villa has begun.

From Douglas, Ariz., there came today confirmation of reports that the troops have gone across the border.

The apparent plan of attack is to encircle and surround Villa before he reaches the fastnesses of the Sierra Madres mountains.

The Douglas dispatch says:

"Advance guard of American troops have been thrown across the border, starting pursuit of Villa. Large bodies of soldiers are leaving Camp Douglas for Mexico. Advance evidently being made simultaneously from Douglas, near Columbus and from near El Paso. Troops from Douglas marching South on road six miles east Aguas Prietas, skirting western slope of Sierra Madres."

With the pursuit of Villa actually on and the punitive expedition into Mexico a reality, the Administration is today without advices as to the attitude of General Carranza.

Regardless of whether Carranza helps, hinders, or actually opposes the American expedition, the die has been cast so far as the United States is concerned.

The soldiers of this nation are today in Mexico, and there they will remain until Villa is captured.

This may take a week, a month—or worse. The American expedition may remain only punitive. If Carranza's acquiescence eventually should be lacking it may mean genuine warfare.

The fact that the censor passed the Douglas, Ariz., message indicates that the censor is willing that the world should know the crucial step has been taken.

The publicity lid was clamped down tight at the War Department here today.

Details of the military movement against Villa were consistently withheld. Secretary Baker said this information would be regarded as strictly confidential for the present. Three additional regiments of

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CAR SERVICE ASSURED FOR YEAR AT LEAST

Settlement of Grievances Makes Traction Strike Impossible for Twelve Months.

UNION WINS MANY POINTS

Companies Grant Practically Every Demand Made by Their Employees.

Satisfactory settlement of grievances reached by conferees for the traction officials and employees and indorsed at a meeting of the union early today, insures Washington against a repetition of the street car strike for at least twelve months.

The agreement expires twelve months from today, at which time the Carmen's Union, which won practically every point at issue in the strike, may resume negotiations with the companies looking toward further increases in pay and changes in working conditions.

FINAL AGREEMENT.

As a result of almost five days' conference, the representatives of both sides agreed upon the following as a final settlement of the grievances:

Inferral recognition of the carmen's union by the companies whose officials will deal from time to time with permanent grievance committees representing the men.

Increase of 2 cents an hour for all employees of the Washington Railway and Electric Company, and a new salary scale for Capital Traction men which makes the increase for ten-year men 7 1/2 cents an hour.

Guarantee of eight hours' rest for carmen between "runs," which means they will complete their work within sixteen consecutive hours, instead of eighteen and twenty, as heretofore.

Revision of the schedules so as to reduce the day's work to approximately ten hours.

Reinstatement of the thirty-one men discharged for belonging to the union.

Pay for men called to the bar and held for more than an hour without being actually put to work.

Work for extra men when extra duty must be performed, thus relieving the regular men.

Bonus System Goes.

As a result of the granting of these demands the Washington Railway and Electric Company today abolished its profit sharing system, and the Capital Traction Company will pay its last bonuses on April 1. The bonuses are not due until July 1, but the company will advance the date, deducting the two months' allowance from the bonus, and abolish the bonus system.

The new wage and hour scale will become effective on both lines next Wednesday.

Although the motormen and conductors lose considerable money by the abolition of the profit sharing and bonus systems, the wage increases granted them will more than equal the lump sums paid them. In many cases the aggregate increase per man will be more than double the amount of the bonuses and profit sharing dividends.

In addition to this, the wages will be a certainty, the men being paid every week, whereas the profit sharing dividends were always uncertain.

Bone of Contention.

Recognition of the union and the demand that employees be given the right to take their cases to arbitrators if dissatisfied with the treatment accorded them by the companies was the bone of contention which extended the conference into five days instead of three and threatened to nullify all the labors of the conferees.

The companies' officials emphatically announced their determination not to grant this demand when the conference first began Wednesday. They discussed it for hours on each of the allotted three days, and they went to the District building with the recognition of permanent grievance committees and demand for recourse to arbitrators as the last issue which deadlocked them and held up the settlement.

It was almost 4 o'clock this morning, after Secretary of Labor Wilson, Conciliator William Brown, and the three District Commissioners had talked for hours with the two rail companies.